

10 WILLIAM SHAHROOZ: Thank you. My name is
11 William Shahrooz. I'm a retiree. I was a former
12 occupational therapist and director of rehabilitation for
13 various healthcare facilities here in Las Vegas. I've been
14 a resident of Las Vegas for 15 years and a citizen of the
15 state of Nevada for the same time.

16 I'm not an expert. All I can do is address
17 these issues as a lay person and using common sense or
18 what I feel is common sense and a sense of fairness.
19 That's what I'm going to try to do in my five minutes.

20 First, I'd like to thank the Department of
21 Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for
22 allowing public comment in this area. There's certainly
23 a lot of strong sentiments regarding this, and I think
24 it's very well-advised that they are taking public
25 commentary.

1 [The first thing I'd like to address is the /
2 geology of Nevada. I'm not a geologist and this comes
3 from my reading, but Las Vegas was part of an inland
4 sea, and this inland sea extended to most of the state
5 of Nevada. In fact, our Mt. Charleston where we go
6 skiing over in the Spring Mountains was an island. And
7 they noticed from looking at geological data in the
8 fossil record, they found seaborne fossils at many
9 thousands of feet high. So we know this is a fact.

10 Las Vegas and the state of Nevada also sits in
11 the so-called Ring of Fire. The Ring of Fire is the
12 most active area of seismic and volcanic activity on the

13 face of the earth. It includes the entire Pacific Rim.

14 Now, just on a common sense level, I would
15 just think that placing a repository of highly toxic
16 waste, nuclear waste that takes many thousands of years
17 for certain isotopes, if not 100,000 years, to degrade
18 to a safe level should not be placed in an area where
19 there's tremendous amount of seismic and volcanic
20 activity. To me that's common sense.

21 Also, we should look at the geology of the
22 area. This has been an area that's been submerged under
23 water twice in geologic history, and it may happen
24 again. We don't know what's going to happen in a
25 hundred thousand years. The DOE doesn't know what's
1 going to happen. The scientists don't know for a fact.

2 All they can do is make educated guesses and
3 computerize predictions, but they don't know for a fact
4 that the place won't be submerged under water or that
5 there will be significant seismic activity in this area.]

6 [As far as a sense of fairness, the lion's
7 share of nuclear waste is generated by
8 electricity-producing nuclear plants. There is no
9 electricity-generated nuclear plant in the state of
10 Nevada. All of our electricity comes from hydroelectric
11 or coal burning. Therefore, to me it is not fair to put
12 the waste of many different states in our state where we
13 do not produce a significant amount of nuclear waste.

14 So I appeal to the common sense and the
15 fairness of the Department of Energy, the Nuclear
16 Regulatory Commission, the NEI, and all of their

17 scientists. Please consider these things.] Thank you